



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0035725; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

#### Notice of Inventory Completion: Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, NY

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Rochester Museum & Science Center (RMSC) has completed an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects and has determined that there is a cultural affiliation between the human remains and associated funerary objects and Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice. The human remains and associated funerary objects were removed from Broome County, NY.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**ADDRESSES:** Kathryn Murano Santos, Rochester Museum & Science Center, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607, telephone (585) 697-1929, email [kmurano@rmsc.org](mailto:kmurano@rmsc.org).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the Rochester Museum & Science Center. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice. Additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the inventory or related records held by the Rochester Museum & Science Center.

### Description

Human remains representing, at minimum, 21 individuals were removed from the Castle Creek Site (Bgh 001) in Broome County, NY. The human remains of 17 individuals and four associated funerary objects were collected by the Broome County Historical Society and they

were donated to the RMSC by Foster Disinger in 1940. The human remains of two individuals were donated to the RMSC by Clarence Alhart, through W.A. Ritchie, in June of 1933. The human remains of one individual and two associated funerary objects were removed during an excavation conducted by the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences (the predecessor of the RMSC) sometime between 1931 and 1933. The human remains of one individual were removed by an unknown person on an unknown date. No known individuals were identified. The six associated funerary objects are one deer vertebra; three faunal bone fragments; and two worked bone fragments. The two worked bone fragments, which were collected during the Rochester Museum expedition, are currently missing.

### **Cultural affiliation**

The human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice are connected to one or more identifiable earlier groups, tribes, peoples, or cultures. There is a relationship of shared group identity between the identifiable earlier groups, tribes, peoples, or cultures and one or more Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations. The following types of information were used to reasonably trace the relationship: geographical and expert opinion.

### **Determinations**

Pursuant to NAGPRA and its implementing regulations, and after consultation with the appropriate Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, the Rochester Museum & Science Center has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of 21 individuals of Native American ancestry.
- The six objects described in this notice are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony.
- There is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Onondaga Nation.

### **Requests for Repatriation**

Written requests for repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice must be sent to the Responsible Official identified in ADDRESSES. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by:

1. Any one or more of the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.
2. Any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**]. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Rochester Museum & Science Center must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects are considered a single request and not competing requests. The Rochester Museum & Science Center is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribe identified in this notice. **AUTHORITY:** Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003, and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR § 10.9, § 10.10, and § 10.14.

Dated: April 19, 2023.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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